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Reidentification of Ecuadorian specimens of *Pachyramphus rufus* as *P. castaneus*

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Cinereous Becard *Pachyramphus rufus* occurs from western Panama through northern Colombia, Venezuela, the Guianas and parts of Amazonian Brazil to north-east Peru (Mobley 2004). It has long been included in the avifauna of Ecuador (Chapman 1926, Ortiz-Crespo *et al.* 1990, Ridgely *et al.* 1998), based on two specimens—a female, the other unsexed—collected in south-east Ecuador at ‘Valle del Río Santiago’, prov. Morona-Santiago according to Paynter (1993), and ‘Valle del Zamora’, prov. Zamora-Chinchipe, in 1895, by Enrico Festa (Salvadori & Festa 1899) and held at the Museo Regionale di Scienze Naturali, Turin, Italy. Given the lack of subsequent records from Ecuador, several authors (Ridgely & Tudor 1994, Ridgely & Greenfield 2001, Mobley 2004) have questioned the identification of these specimens, and some (Ridgely & Greenfield 2001, P. Coopmans *in litt.* 2006) have suggested that they refer to Chestnut-crowned Becard *P. castaneus*, based on biogeography and that identification of female *Pachyramphus* was then poorly understood, as evidenced by Zimmer (1936). However, none of these authors examined the specimens and the legitimacy of the Ecuadorian records remained in doubt.

We recently independently examined the relevant specimens (catalogue nos. 1357–58; Elter 1986) and concluded that they are *P. castaneus saturatus*. Specific identification is straightforward, as both show a broad grey stripe behind the eye—including part of the ear-coverts—encircling the nape and separating the rich chestnut crown from the paler rufous lower nape and neck. The grey band is unbroken, but is much narrower on the nape than behind the eye. This grey band is diagnostic of *P. castaneus*, as no other species of *Pachyramphus*, in any plumage, shows it. Further distinctions from *P. rufus* include the richer chestnut crown, distinctly darker and more saturated than the rest of the upperparts (in *P. rufus* the crown is near-concolorous with the remaining upperparts), and a distinct dusky loreal stripe (this area is whitish or greyish white on *P. rufus*). Our re-examination of these specimens reveals that there are no valid records of *P. rufus* for Ecuador, and

underlines the importance of avian collections held in Italy (Violani & Barbagli 2003).

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The correct name of the Guianan Toucanet: *Selenidera culik* (Wagler) not *S. piperivorus* (Linnaeus)

by Michael Walters

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Pacheco & Whitney (2006) sought to change the names of three Neotropical birds. Two of these may be addressed at a later stage, but this note discusses the case of the bird currently known as *Selenidera culik* (Wagler, 1827), which Pacheco & Whitney sought to replace with *Ramphastos piperivorus* Linnaeus, a name rejected